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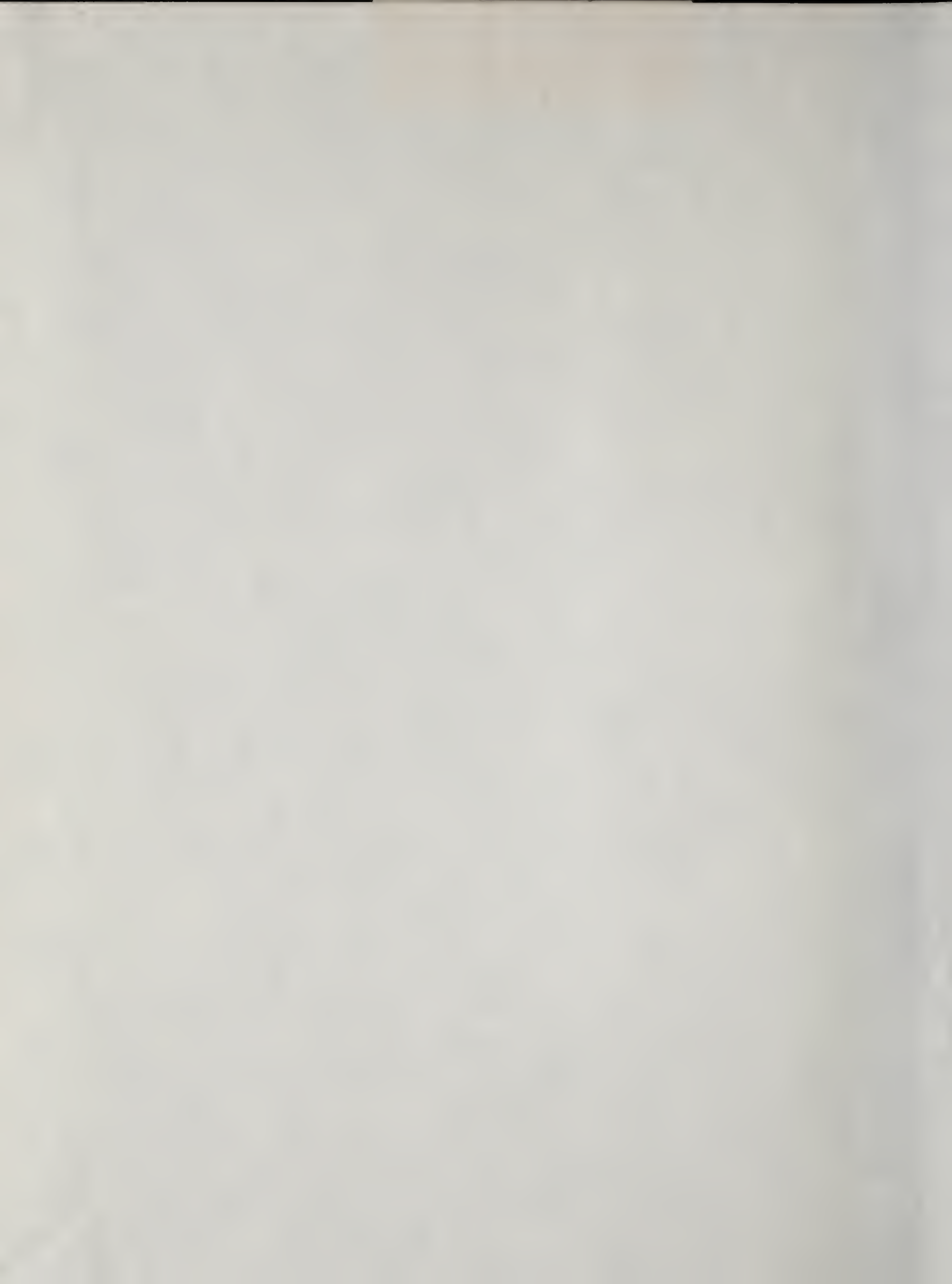
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The
BUCK FAMILY
and its Kin

BY
WALTER H. BUCK

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, 1956



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Once again, and its day get back in the world
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Thomas Buck (1881-1950) (1881-1950) (1881-1950)
Virginia — In 1936 I wrote *The Buck Family
of Virginia*. This is an addition to
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OUR FAMILY and its kin go back to the earliest days in America and can be traced with accuracy; though early records are often scanty.

Thomas Buck (sometimes spelled Bucke) came to Virginia on the ship *George* in 1635.⁽¹⁾ The Lees came in 1640, the Carters in 1649 and the Byrds in 1670.

Thomas Buck settled in York County on the south side of the river and though we know but little of him or of the family in those early days, the court records show that he was successful in requiring one Robert Goffe to serve out his time with him as an indentured servant.

Thomas Buck's will was probated November 17, 1659 and the inventory of his estate, though unimportant judged by later standards, was quite substantial for the seventeenth century.

He had a plantation with three horses and fourteen cattle, a manservant and a maidservant and another manservant employed from Thomas Packman. In

On the other hand, the fact that the
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addition to his sword, "two gunnes" and "eight thousand nayles," the inventory lists among other things some women's finery and the decedent's coat of "redd broadcloth" with silver buttons, and what would I not give for just one of those silver buttons from that "redd" coat!

His furniture is referred to in a well known book on such subjects.⁽²⁾ His land is referred to in a standard work and some of it was in the Middle Plantation towards the French Ordinary. This land should be identified by some member of the family with the time and patience required for such an investigation. It would be extremely interesting to know just where Thomas Buck, our ancestor, lived.⁽³⁾

The Bayly family was seated in Northumberland County in 1679; Samuel Bayly marrying Sarah Pierce there at that time. The name was originally spelled Peirce and is so spelled on some of the tombstones at "Diamond Hill," the home of Pierce Bayly in Loudoun County.

The first of the Pierce line was William Pierce who sailed from England on the *Sea Venture* in 1609 with Somers, Gates and Newport. The *Sea Venture* was wrecked on the Island of Bermuda and from that

event Shakespeare took the scene for his comedy *The Tempest*. A stirring account of the wreck was written by one of the survivors, William Strachey, and it is fortunate that its contents are available to us.⁽⁴⁾ The wrecked mariners built two small vessels on Bermuda and finally reached Jamestown in 1610.

At Jamestown William Pierce was an important man becoming later the commander there. His house was described as the "fairest" in Jamestown and it was in that house that George Sandys, in 1621, completed his translation of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* which Moses Coit Tyler has described as—"the first utterance of the conscious literary spirit articulated in America." Alexander Pope, too, found Sandys' poetry excellent and John Dryden considered him the best versifier of his age. Surely some of our kin will have interest enough to locate the site of William Pierce's "fairest" house in Jamestown.

The first Negroes in America were brought to Jamestown in 1619 on a Dutch ship. There were twenty in all, and one of them, a woman, Angelo, was a domestic who belonged to our ancestor, William Pierce.⁽⁵⁾

John Rolfe was on the *Sea Venture* when she was wrecked on Bermuda, and his infant daughter, Bermuda, died there. After the death of his first wife in Virginia, Pocahontas became his second wife, and after her death he married Jane Pierce, the daughter of William Pierce.

Tobacco, that "stincking weede" which old King James detested, became in time the Colony's most important source of income. But the native Virginia tobacco was of an inferior kind and it was John Rolfe who, by his experimentation with different kinds of tobacco seeds brought from the West Indies, finally succeeded in producing a good variety of tobacco. With this excellent tobacco, which often brought good prices on the London market, the success of those Tidewater families that had large land holdings and numerous slaves was assured.

In 1628, in the time of Charles I, a group of private individuals from Virginia, with the countenance of the English government, dealt with Lord Goring for the sale of the entire Virginia tobacco crop. The price of tobacco was low at that time but an agreement was finally concluded. The individuals referred to were then in London and the group was composed

John Smith was the first person who was
killed on the island and he was buried there.
The first ship which arrived at the island
in 1771 was the ship which brought the
first settlers to the island. The ship was
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of William Tucker, John West, William Claiborne, Samuel Matthews and William Pierce.

Eventually in the Tidewater great houses were built and in that region was developed an unique social system which was peculiar to Virginia. That social system produced a type of man who was not a mere transplanted Englishman, and from this type Virginia gave to America many of its great and highly honorable public leaders.

Rolfe and William Pierce became tobacco planters on the north side of the James near Mulberry Island where both lie in unmarked graves. Some interested one among our kin should try and locate their plantations.⁽⁶⁾

In this same Pierce-Bayly line of ours appears the Mountjoy name, and though that family's connection with us has never been definitely traced it certainly should be.

Pierce Bayly of "Diamond Hill" had a brother, Mountjoy Bayly, who moved to Frederick, Maryland. He was an original member of the order of the Cincinnati and living later in Washington occupied a position with the United States Senate. My grand-

and Western Union, and the
American Telephone and Telegraph Company.

The company, in the telephone, has been
built up in a very rapid and successful manner
since its first establishment in 1876. It has
grown to be one of the largest and most
valuable of the country, and it is now
the property of the American Telephone and
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mother, the wife of Marcus Blakemore Buck, was the daughter of Dr. William Mountjoy Bayly, a son of Pierce Bayly of "Diamond Hill."

The Mountjoys were authentically a titled English family. Four Mountjoys signed the famous Westmoreland Resolutions, drawn by Richard Henry Lee in February 1766, and the tablet bearing their names is on the wall of the Court House at Montross.

In this same line, too, was testy old William Payne, whose daughter, Mary, was the wife of Pierce Bayly and who is buried at "Diamond Hill." In an altercation with young George Washington at an election contest the old man knocked that famous man down with his cane, but the affair was settled with honor.⁽⁷⁾

The Calmes family was one of a number of Huguenot families which fled from France. Marquis Calmes I, the immigrant, purchased 1455 acres of land from the proprietors of the Northern Neck on Aquia Creek in 1705. Marquis Calmes II was one of the gentlemen Justices on the first Court in Frederick County. Marquis Calmes IV, grandson of Marquis Calmes II, was born in what is now Clarke County. He was a Captain in the Second Virginia

Regiment of the Continental Line in the Revolution. After the Revolution he moved to Woodford County, Kentucky, and is buried in a mausoleum on his old plantation there erected by his slaves. The D. A. R. Chapter at Versailles is named after him. Some years ago I wrote a sketch of the Calmes family which gives a more extended account of that family.⁽⁸⁾

The Richardsons were Quakers from Maryland, the immigrant William Richardson owning over 4000 acres of land in the West River section of Anne Arundel County. William Richardson had known William Penn in England and when Penn came to Maryland he, together with Lord and Lady Baltimore, visited William Richardson at his home on the West River.

The Richardsons were persons of position and property, and, like the Huguenots, doubtless came partly for religious reasons. Colonel William Richardson was the able Commander of the Eastern Shore Battalion which distinguished itself in the Revolution at the Battle of Harlem Heights.⁽⁹⁾

The Blakemores were from Lancaster County, moving later to Frederick County (now Clarke). Blackmore was the original family name and though

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the connection has never been proven with the Blackmore family of Devon it is undoubtedly the same family. To Richard Blackmore, author of *Lorna Doone*, a memorial window stands in Exeter Cathedral.

Thomas Blackmore of Lancaster County married Anne Neville, daughter of Captain George Neville of Auburn in Fauquier County. His son, George Blackmore, was a Lieutenant in the Second Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line and is represented today in the Society of the Cincinnati by a descendant. He was on the first Board of Trustees of Berryville when that town was laid out in 1798, at which time his name was spelled "Blakemore." His wife was Elizabeth Mauzy, daughter of Colonel Henry Mauzy.

My great-uncle William Mason Buck (1809-1895) lived with his grandfather, George Blakemore, at "Cedar Grove" (near Berryville) while attending school. In his family notes he tells of his grandfather's war service at Brandywine, where his great-uncle, Thomas Blakemore, was killed and where LaFayette was wounded. Later, his grandfather's Company went South under the command of General Greene, and in one of the engagements in South

Carolina he was captured by the British but was later exchanged and rejoined the Revolutionary Army.

Another Blakemore home near "Cedar Grove" is "Woodlawn," and still another is "Allmutz," apparently named for "Olmutz," the fortress in Austria where LaFayette was imprisoned and from which he was rescued by Pinckney of South Carolina and his companions.

George Blakemore related to my great-uncle many campaign stories of General LaFayette, with whom he dined in Richmond on LaFayette's last visit to the United States, and to whom he announced that his oldest grandson bore the name of Thomas Fayette Buck. My great-uncle's great-grandmother, Anne Neville Blakemore of "Moreland" near "Cedar Grove" was described as slight and delicate though active at the age of 90. My great-uncle listened with great interest to her reminiscences of the old days with her memories of Washington, Fairfax, the Calmes, Mauzys, Nevilles and others.⁽¹⁰⁾

The Mauzy family was a Huguenot family and Colonel Henry Mauzy and George Washington were engaged together in making a survey of Lord Fairfax's lands in the Northern Neck. John Mauzy laid

out the town of Salem (now Marshall) in Fauquier County in 1797.⁽¹¹⁾

The Neville family originally came to Maryland, John Neville, the immigrant, coming in 1634 with *The Ark* and *The Dove*. He settled at "The Cliffs," on the west side of the Patuxent River in St. Marys County. He can be traced through his land holdings in that County and in Charles County on the Wi-comico River. His descendants moved to Northampton County, Isle of Wight County, Middlesex County, and finally to Fauquier County—all in Virginia.

Captain George Neville of Auburn in Fauquier County was a man of importance and his will, admitted to probate June 27, 1774, lists slaves and other property of considerable value. On the subscription list of Liberty Hall, the predecessor of Washington and Lee University, is found the name of Joseph Neville. Keith Neville, a former governor of Nebraska, descends from the immigrant John Neville.⁽¹²⁾

Thomas Buck, grandson of the immigrant, had a number of children and among them three sons—John, Thomas and Charles. Charles Buck, after receiving a bequest under the will of his uncle, Joseph

the first of the series of lectures given at the
University of Cambridge.

The first lecture, on the history of the
University, was given on the 1st of October.
The second, on the history of the University,
was given on the 8th of October. The third,
on the history of the University, was given
on the 15th of October. The fourth, on the
history of the University, was given on the
22nd of October. The fifth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 29th
of October. The sixth, on the history of
the University, was given on the 5th of
November.

The seventh lecture, on the history of
the University, was given on the 12th of
November. The eighth, on the history of
the University, was given on the 19th of
November. The ninth, on the history of
the University, was given on the 26th of
November. The tenth, on the history of
the University, was given on the 3rd of
December. The eleventh, on the history
of the University, was given on the 10th
of December. The twelfth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 17th
of December. The thirteenth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 24th
of December. The fourteenth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 31st
of December.

The fifteenth lecture, on the history of
the University, was given on the 7th of
January. The sixteenth, on the history of
the University, was given on the 14th of
January. The seventeenth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 21st
of January. The eighteenth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 28th
of January. The nineteenth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 4th of
February. The twentieth, on the history
of the University, was given on the 11th
of February.

Buck, set out from Tidewater for the Valley of Virginia, after apparently spending some time in Westmoreland County. Some day, let us hope, the story of this vigorous and enterprising ancestor, to whom we owe so much, will be written.

The land holdings of the family in York County were not large enough to cultivate tobacco on a scale necessary for substantial success. Charles Buck, therefore, determined to move and to make his home in the rich river bottom lands of the Shenandoah Valley. We get a glimpse of him in a letter written by his son, Captain Thomas Buck of the Revolution, who relates that his father "was a great sportsman and used to carry me off to the horse races of which I became very fond and in all probability should have followed his example had not the Lord arrested both him and myself in our mad career." Family tradition has it that his Negro jockey "Dick," was the first of that race to cross the Blue Ridge Mountains, and the old race course has been located as having been near the present location of the plant of the American Viscose Company in Front Royal.

Charles Buck's first purchase of land in the Valley was from William Russell in 1740; a tract lying

between the north and south branches of the Shenandoah River in what was then Frederick (now Warren) County. This tract was afterwards known as "Clover Hill." He owned a wharf at Dumfries, purchased from Jesse Ewell, and by his will he devised much land, some of which he had purchased from Lord Fairfax. He bought and sold many tracts of land and was a man of importance in the pioneer community to which he had moved; his name frequently appearing in the records of Frederick County. He was commissioned a Lieutenant of Militia August 20, 1751, and was a vestryman of Frederick Parish.⁽¹³⁾

Charles Buck I was married twice—first to the daughter of Samuel Earle and his wife, Letitia Sorrell Earle—and second to Letitia Sorrell of Westmoreland County, who was the widow Wilcox. He left three sons—John of the first marriage, and Charles and Thomas of the second. Meanwhile, the Richardsons had moved from Tidewater, Maryland, to Frederick County, Maryland on the Monocacy River. William Richardson of this family married Isabella Calmes of Frederick County, Virginia, and their daughters, Miriam, Mary and Ann, married, respectively, John, Charles and Thomas Buck.

The Bayly family moved up the Northern Neck, Pierce Bayly, a Gentleman Justice and a man of some importance, establishing his home, "Diamond Hill," in the Piedmont near Aldie in Loudoun County. His son, Dr. William Mountjoy Bayly, a well-known physician, moved to Strasburg, in the Valley, that being the farthest movement of the English from Tidewater into the Valley where they met the Germans who had come there with Joist Hite from Pennsylvania. Dr. Bayly married Mary Buck, a daughter of Charles Buck II.

Charles Buck I devised 844 acres of land to his oldest son, John, who was a Lieutenant Colonel of Militia in the Revolutionary War. Colonel John Buck moved to Woodford County, Kentucky, and his old home in Versailles still stands. He is buried in the cemetery in Lexington near the monument to Henry Clay. His son, William Richardson Buck, moved to Mississippi and was a student at Princeton when the War of 1812 began. He entered the Navy and was awarded a sword by Congress for his gallantry in the ship duel between the *Peacock* and the *Epervier*. William Richardson Buck's grandson, Lieutenant William Buck of the Navy, was one of the four naval

The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the train was the smell of the sea. It was a salty, bracing scent that filled the air. I had heard that the weather in London was terrible, but this was something else entirely. The sun was shining brightly, and the sky was a clear, vibrant blue. I had never seen such a beautiful day in the city. The people walking around were dressed in light, summery clothes, and I could hear the sound of children playing in the parks. It was a stark contrast to the grey, overcast days I had experienced in my home country. I had heard that London was a boring, old-fashioned city, but this was a city full of life and energy. I had heard that the people were rude and unfriendly, but they were warm and welcoming. I had heard that the food was terrible, but it was delicious. I had heard that the weather was awful, but it was perfect. I had heard that London was a boring, old-fashioned city, but it was a city full of life and energy. I had heard that the people were rude and unfriendly, but they were warm and welcoming. I had heard that the food was terrible, but it was delicious. I had heard that the weather was awful, but it was perfect.

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officers who served with the greatest distinction in the Spanish American War of 1898, being preceded in the list of honors only by Admiral William T. Sampson, Commander Richard P. Hobson, and Lieutenant Ward. William Richardson Buck's line is now extinct; its last male member having died some years ago.

To his youngest son, Thomas, the testator devised 1275 acres of land and his wharf lot at Dumfries. Dumfries was established as a port by Scottish merchants from Glasgow, and it is hard to realize today, the estuary being silted up, that Dumfries was once a port for ships which sailed the ocean. Thomas Buck, a Captain of Militia in the Revolution, who had six months Continental service, was a man of importance and is frequently mentioned in the Valley histories. He was a Justice of the Peace, three times High Sheriff of Frederick County, and in 1815 was a special delegate from that County to the legislature. After moving from the river near "Buckton" to Front Royal, he became one of its original trustees when that town was laid out in 1788.

To his second son, Charles II, the testator devised 780 acres of land on the north branch of the Shenan-

doah River. This is the "Buckton" property and the only part of it now owned by the family is the Buck family cemetery.

Charles Buck II of "Buckton" was a successful farmer, having 13 slaves—a large number for that neighborhood. His father was a vestryman of the Church of England, but he was greatly influenced and his sporting career changed by the Rev. James Ireland.

The Rev. James Ireland was a Presbyterian from Edinburgh who was living at New Market, Virginia, in 1768. He later became a Baptist minister and was a man of great influence. In 1819 Charles Buck II gave land near "Buckton" to the Rev. Ireland for his residence and for a church and from that time many members of the Buck family and especially of that line have been Baptists.

Reference is now made to the establishment of the several religious organizations in what is Warren County today in order to give the history of their beginnings. Charles Buck I was a vestryman of Frederick Parish and his son, Thomas Buck, writes of going to church with his father and of not understanding the sermon. That church was in Winchester and

that there is a great deal of money and the
the money is not used as it should be. The
state is not.

Chapter 10. The State. The State is a
powerful force in the life of the people. The State
is the power which is the source of the law and
the power which is the source of the order and
the power which is the source of the peace and
the power which is the source of the justice.

The State is the power which is the source of the law and
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there were three chapels in what is now Warren County—the South River Chapel built in 1745 near the present Limeton, McCays (McCoys) Chapel built in 1747 near the present Cedarville, and the chapel at Ephriam Leith's Spring built in 1768 near the present Limeton.⁽¹⁴⁾

The Rev. James Ireland, when an elder, organized the First Baptist Church on the South River near the present Limeton in 1782, and the building used is thought to have been the abandoned Church of England Chapel. Later the Baptists had their church at Happy Creek in Front Royal.

The Presbyterians are said to have worshipped in the same old building as the Baptists on the South River and later to have moved to Front Royal. In 1844 my great-uncle, William Mason Buck, together with Mordecai Cloud and Robert Turner, Trustees, collected funds for building a Presbyterian Church in Front Royal, and that old building, becoming vacant when a new church was built, is now occupied by a colored religious organization. The Protestant Episcopal Church was organized in Front Royal in 1852 and in 1805 Bishop Asbury preached in the Methodist Church there. The Quakers held services

as early as 1736 in the home of Robert McCay, Jr., near the present Cedarville. Later they built the Crooked Run Meeting House at the present Nineveh and some of the graves can still be seen there.

One of the sons of Charles Buck II, William Calmes Buck, was a celebrated Baptist preacher and pastor of the East Baptist Church in Louisville, Kentucky. His Baptist hymnbook published in Louisville in 1844 and handsomely bound is in my possession. Charles W. Buck of that line was Minister to Peru (1885-1889) and another, Charles Neville Buck, was a novelist of some note and Horace R. Buck, son of Charles Lunsford Buck, of Mississippi was a distinguished lawyer in Montana and later one of the justices of the Supreme Court of that state.

Thomas Buck, the third son of Charles Buck I, already referred to, had three sons: William Richardson Buck, Marcus Calmes Buck, and Isaac Newton Buck.

Marcus Calmes Buck was named for his relative, Marquis Calmes; the Marquis being anglicized. He was a student at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine 1810-1812, graduating in the latter year. He was commissioned Major Surgeon

and later was appointed Military Storekeeper at Washington, April 25, 1831. He served one winter (perhaps 1816) on the Canadian border during the Indian troubles. In a report from Lieutenant Colonel L. D. Clinch, his superior officer, it is related that:

“Dr. Buck’s coolness and intrepidity were only equaled by his great skill and humane and generous attentions to the wounded.”

The family correspondence shows Dr. Buck to have been a man of attractive character, his advice being widely sought in the family. His home in Washington was opposite the present location of the Smithsonian Institution. He was fond of fishing in the river nearby and writes of his liver-and-white pointer and of bird shooting in the fields around Washington. He wrote medical articles for the *Boston Medical Journal* and also unsigned articles for the *National Intelligencer* and other papers on general topics.

Isaac Newton Buck, his brother, also graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and practiced medicine in Front Royal, his home “Mountain View” being now a part of the American Viscose Company’s property. After retiring from the practice of medicine in 1844, he and Dr. Dorsey who had

succeeded to his practice, in 1854 successfully removed a large tumor from the body of a woman without an anesthetic and at a time when aseptic methods were unknown.

William Richardson Buck, the oldest of the three brothers, lived at "Clover Hill" between the forks of the Shenandoah River. He was born in 1776 and died at the age of 27, leaving his widow, Lucy Neville Blakemore, with four sons and a daughter. Thomas Fayette Buck, the oldest, married Elizabeth Peake, the daughter of Dr. Humphrey Peake of Alexandria. He lived at "Clover Hill," farmed that place and also operated the Elizabeth Iron Furnace in the Massanutten Mountains nearby.

Marcus Blakemore Buck, the third son, my grandfather, was born in 1816. He was educated at Jacquelin Marshall Smith's School in Berryville and while going to school lived at "Cedar Grove" with his grandfather, George Blakemore. He was a generous, neighborly man, too forward-looking for his day and in consequence eventually suffered financial reverses. He was for a time a farmer and sheriff of Warren County. Afterwards, he established his home, "Belmont," on the mountain near Front Royal; his

orchards and vineyards becoming famous. He was, too, one of the first growers of fruit on a large scale in the Valley. He married Jane Letitia Bayly, daughter of Dr. William Mountjoy Bayly, of Strasburg. Her brother, Richard Bayly, graduated from the Harvard Law School at a time when Motley, author of the *Rise of the Dutch Republic*, and the famous naturalist, Henry D. Thoreau, were students at Harvard College. The youngest son, John Newton Buck, was interested in Capon Springs and was exceedingly popular with the many important guests who annually visited the Springs.

The second son, William Mason Buck, an unusually able man, went to school at "Mantua" now "Cleft Oak" near Berryville, and while there lived at "Cedar Grove" with his grandfather, George Blakemore.

He married Elizabeth A. Ashby. For a time he and his brother John were merchants in Front Royal and his correspondence abounds with letters from the Baltimore firm of Hopkins and Brother (Johns Hopkins), from whom they bought supplies and to whom they sold at a discount notes and drafts which they had received from customers. One of these drafts was drawn on the U. S., but that, too, was discounted,

Hopkins saying that Uncle Sam was in disrepute! He was also interested in Capon Springs which was for a time successful, but afterwards got into financial difficulties in which he lost heavily. He also settled many estates for the family and its connections and was guardian and trustee for many of them, and it is pleasant to note from the correspondence their expressions of gratitude for the way in which he performed his duties. His advice was often sought in the family and his voluminous correspondence from 1833 to 1880, in complete order, is a valuable historical source for the part of Virginia in which he lived and for the places in the West and South where he had correspondents.

He was guardian for several of the Blakemore boys including R. M. Blakemore who went to California in the gold rush days but returned to Virginia. These boys were well educated at William B. Harris' School in Middleburg, and while attending school lived with the Rogers family, whose old home "Oakham," now owned by the Fairfax family, is on the road from Middleburg to Aldie.

The diary of his daughter, Lucy Rebecca Buck, kept

during the Civil War, was used by Freeman in his "Lee's Lieutenants." ⁽¹⁵⁾

Here, then, on both branches of the Shenandoah River and in and around the village of Front Royal, laid out in 1788, the Buck family and its kin lived.

"Bel Air," the home of Captain Thomas Buck of the Revolution, begun in 1795, is still standing though somewhat altered in appearance and now owned by others. Other Buck homes were "Buckton" on the north branch of the Shenandoah, "Clover Hill" on the south branch, "Mountain View" on the south branch, and "Belmont" on the mountain towards Chester's Gap. Homes of the kin of the Buck family were, "Rose Hill," first a Blakemore and afterwards a Richardson home in Front Royal, "Contentment," the Richardson home near the north branch, "Willow Glen," the Cloud home, now a part of the Viscose Company's property, and "Oakley," the Ashby home in Front Royal.

In 1856 Isaac Newton Cloud of "Willow Glen," whose wife was Elizabeth Buck, made his migration to Kentucky and afterwards to Missouri. With his wife, his slaves, brood mares, carriage, wagon, riding horse, and tents, they set forth in a way reminiscent

of Biblical times. He and his wife rode in the carriage until towards evening when he would mount his riding horse which had followed behind and select a place for camp that night. They went through the Valley and the Cumberland Gap into Kentucky. His description of the camp in the Cumberland Mountains with the old cook Matilda saying in the evening, "Mars Newt, you and Miss Bettie come to supper," and of the Negroes jigging and dancing afterwards while he and his wife played the violin and guitar, tells of a life which has gone forever.⁽¹⁶⁾

In the somewhat isolated neighborhood of what is now Warren County, the family and its kin lived a pleasant, congenial life with much visiting between them. Front Royal was described by a Washington visitor in 1836 as "your dear little village," and it was a pleasant place in which to live in those days. It had its lyceum in 1835 and in 1839 one Elgin opened his dancing class which "set everything agog"! The Simpson family and others, from time to time, had private schools where the classical languages were taught along with other studies. The family correspondence indicates, too, that the writers had a good acquaintance with standard works, suggesting more

leisure at home and the availability of good books there.

But as the families grew in size the farms were not sufficient to provide properly for all of their members and the correspondence makes it clear, too, that lands in the West were more productive than in Virginia. Young men also went West to get employment with merchants. Yet, despite the better opportunities in the West, the letters uniformly show a longing for old Virginia and hope was often expressed to be again at "Bel Air" or "Clover Hill" with the family, its relations and friends in close and pleasant association.

Then in 1860 comes the ominous note of war. My father, Richard B. Buck, and my uncle, Walter Buck, were both Union men then living in Kentucky and in that year Marcus Blakemore writes from Trenton, Kentucky, about them saying, "We are all in favor of the Union here but have about ceased to hope that it will be preserved." Here, then, were Virginians, strong Union men who resolutely opposed secession. But when Virginia was threatened, among the first to go into the service were my father, Richard B. Buck, who eventually became a Lieutenant in the Warren Rifles, Company B, 17th Virginia Infantry, C.S.A., and was

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badly wounded just before Appomattox, and my uncle, Walter Buck, who enlisted first in Captain Bowen's Mounted Rangers and later was a Lieutenant in Company E, 7th Virginia Cavalry, C.S.A. (Ashby's). He was killed June 21, 1863 in a cavalry skirmish near Upperville, on the way to Gettysburg. Their war records are recorded by those who were with them on the hard fought fields. Irving A. Buck, a son of my great-uncle, William Mason Buck, and a Captain in the Confederate Army, had the same Union sentiments and saw Confederate service under General Cleburne in the South; his biography of that General is now a difficult volume to obtain.⁽¹⁷⁾

Samuel D. Buck of "Buckton" had the same Union views but joining the Confederate Army became Captain of Company H, 13th Virginia Infantry, C.S.A. He had a splendid war record and was cited in general orders for his bravery in the destruction of a bridge over the Rapidan River. After the war he visited General Lee at Lexington, and the General presented him with a large photograph of himself taken while seated in a chair, and this photograph hangs on the wall of my library today.

Captain Thomas Horace Buck of the "Buckton"

branch of the family was a veteran of the Mexican War. He was Captain of Company E, 7th Virginia Cavalry, C.S.A. (Ashby's), and the roster of that Company included fifteen members of our family and its kin. Fourteen members of the Buck family from Warren County were in the Confederate Army.⁽¹⁸⁾

The history of Warren County has been greatly neglected but one of its sons wrote several books, one of which will be referred to. This son was Thomas A. Ashby, a youth at the time of the Civil War and afterwards a well-known surgeon in Baltimore. He was a descendant of John Ashby, who rode from the scene of Braddock's defeat to Williamsburg to tell the story of that disaster to the authorities there. He was related, also, to Turner Ashby, the knightly Colonel of the 7th Virginia Cavalry, C.S.A., who was killed at Port Republic in June 1862, while dismounted and rallying an infantry regiment which was falling back.

Dr. Ashby's account of the domestic life in Front Royal and its vicinity gives us an intimate view of that vanished social system. The housewives in those days knew little of the drudgery of domestic work, having Negro servants to perform such duties, but

they were excellent managers and the relationship between them and their servants was a pleasant one.

In addition to the usual housework, it was necessary to make clothes for the children and for the Negroes, both the household servants and the field hands. It is apparent from this account that those households were busy places and required ability of a high order to manage.

Dr. Ashby refers to the independence and refinement of the life in those days and adds—"There were a number of fine old estates and many of the landowners lived in baronial style in homes of comfort and hospitality." I think, however, that his reference to the baronial style of living is overdrawn for such a description smacks more of the old life in the Tidewater. From my glimpse of the life there after the Civil War and from extensive reading of family correspondence, my view is that our people lived a quiet, well ordered country life in a community composed largely of our family and its kin; that they were well read and well mannered, but that they were not sufficiently well off to live in a style which could be called baronial even had they desired to do so.⁽¹⁹⁾

The old homes at "Buckton" and "Clover Hill"

have long since burned, and "Belmont," my grandfather's home near Front Royal, has fallen a victim to the bulldozer; not a trace remaining of the house or of the famous orchards and vineyards, and all the other homes of our family and its kin referred to in this story are now in other hands. Mute history of our family and its kin can be found in beautiful "Prospect Hill Cemetery" in Front Royal; and in the family cemetery at "Buckton," located on a high bluff over the north branch of the Shenandoah River rest the remains of the older members of the family including Captain Thomas Buck of the Revolution and Isabella Calmes, the wife of William Richardson, who was buried there in 1796.

Our family and its kin have all but vanished from Front Royal and its neighborhood—only one Buck remaining there who was born in Virginia.

After the Civil War my father, Richard Bayly Buck, moved to Baltimore, where he later married Laura Elma Grafflin. But four years of hard campaigning in a war in which he had served with distinction had taken its toll. Returning home ill one day my gallant father, at the age of 44, stricken with a heart attack, came suddenly to his end.

And so I have concluded the story of the Buck family and its kin, hoping that it will interest and stimulate the pride of those who follow us.

With an allowance for the ages of the immigrants, we can say that from Thomas Buck, the immigrant, to Thomas Buck, my grandson, 300 years have elapsed, while from William Pierce to my grandson the period is 375 years. This is a long time in the history of America, and in that time our family and its kin have been connected with important events and important persons.

William Pierce was a leading figure in the cultivation of tobacco and of the dealings made for its sale in London; and tobacco was what made Virginia in the early days. He was Commander, too, at Jamestown, in troublous times, and anyone who has read of the starving times and of the Indian massacres there, must conclude that he was a sturdy character, and an ancestor of whom we can be justly proud.

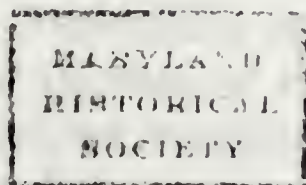
Starting slowly in York County and then moving to the Valley of Virginia, our family and afterwards its kin all but settled most of the land around the forks of the Shenandoah River. With many of them as Justices and with one a vestryman of Frederick

Parish, they occupied those unpaid but important positions which set the form of Virginia's political system and brought into the service of the State its leading sons.⁽²⁰⁾

Our ancestors fought under that greatest of Americans, George Washington, of whom I have related an incident personal to our kin. Another personal incident has also been related of that knightly figure of the Old South, Robert E. Lee, whose unblemished character has stood the test of time, and under whom there served in the Army of Northern Virginia many members of the Buck family and its kin.

WALTER H. BUCK

Buckton II
Brooklandville
Baltimore County, Maryland
April, 1956



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Henry C. Taylor of New York. Its foreword written by
three of Virginia's historical authorities adds much to its
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Richard B. Buck marked with the asterisk. "Distinguished on the field for Gallantry." Col. M. D. Corse inscribed on his certificate "He served through the war with distinguished gallantry on many occasions."

Forty Years of Active Service

by CHARLES T. O'FERRAL, page 79.

"A tall, handsome young fellow who won his Lieutenant's spurs by his chivalry and daring. He added a leaf to the Laurel Wreath of the Bucks, whose numbers in the Confederate Army were many. Every one of them was entitled to a medal of honor."

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by BASIL L. GILDERSLEEVE

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A perfect description of what animated the Confederate soldier.

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-

In the Alderman Library at the University of Virginia will be found much material on the Buck family. It includes my grandfather's Diary (Marcus Blakemore Buck); the war letters of my father, Richard Bayly Buck, and the important and voluminous correspondence of my great-uncle William Mason Buck.

In Baltimore the Bel-Air Corporation is in possession of extensive genealogical and other records of the family.

The Buck Family Cemetery Association organized under the Virginia laws is in control of the old cemetery at "Buckton" and it is devoutly to be hoped that our family and its kin will visit it from time to time and never allow it to be neglected.

In *The Buck Family of Virginia* I know of only two errors. On pages 15 and 16 a reference is made to the "Vineyard" Plantation. The account was copied from local Valley histories and is inaccurate. Marquis Calmes II never owned the "Vineyard" Plantation. His property was across the River on Calmes Neck. However, he was an important man at Winchester, being on the First Court there and evidently had some leasing arrangement with the Burwell family in order to occupy the "Vineyard," where he lived.

On page 22, in the reference to the sea fight in which the *Peacock* was engaged, it is erroneously stated that the action took place off the coast of Wales. In fact, the action took place off Cape Vincent.

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees of the Board of Directors of the City of New York, for the year 1900.

Committee on Finance and Accounts

Chairman: Mr. John F. Johnson

Members: Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson

Committee on Public Works and Buildings

In the following list are the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees of the Board of Directors of the City of New York, for the year 1900. The names of the persons who have been appointed to the various committees of the Board of Directors of the City of New York, for the year 1900, are as follows:

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Members: Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson

Committee on Finance and Accounts

Chairman: Mr. John F. Johnson

Members: Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson, Mr. John F. Johnson

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1. The first part of the book is devoted to a general introduction to the subject of the history of the English language. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the language, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the English language for the understanding of the language itself and for the study of other languages.

2. The second part of the book is devoted to a detailed study of the history of the English language from the beginning of the 15th century to the present. It discusses the various stages of the language, from Old English to Middle English to Modern English, and the changes which have taken place in the language over the centuries. The author also discusses the influence of other languages on the English language, particularly Latin and French.

3. The third part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the United States. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the American English language, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the American English language for the understanding of the American language and for the study of other languages.

4. The fourth part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the British Isles. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the British English language, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the British English language for the understanding of the British language and for the study of other languages.

5. The fifth part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the world. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the world English language, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the world English language for the understanding of the world language and for the study of other languages.

6. The sixth part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the future. It discusses the various factors which may influence the development of the English language in the future, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the English language in the future for the understanding of the English language and for the study of other languages.

7. The seventh part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the present. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the English language in the present, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the English language in the present for the understanding of the English language and for the study of other languages.

8. The eighth part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the past. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the English language in the past, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the English language in the past for the understanding of the English language and for the study of other languages.

9. The ninth part of the book is devoted to a study of the history of the English language in the world. It discusses the various factors which have influenced the development of the English language in the world, such as contact with other languages, internal changes, and the influence of social and cultural factors. The author also discusses the importance of the study of the history of the English language in the world for the understanding of the English language and for the study of other languages.

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